

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 MOSCOW 9879

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJECT: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION: DEMARCHE TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT

REF: (A) 76 MOSCOW 19609, (B) MOSCOW 2977, (C) STATE 135914

1. IF POST-BELGRADE I CONDITIONS WARRANT, EMBASSY BELIEVES WE SHOULD MAKE ANOTHER DEMARCHE THIS SUMMER, THE 8TH SUCH EXCHANGE WITH THE SOVIETS. THE PURPOSE OF THE DEMARCHE SHOULD BE THREE-FOLD. FIRST, IT SHOULD FOCUS ON FOLLOWING UP ON THE POINTS WE MADE IN OUR DECEMBER 14, 1976 DEMARCHE (REF A) AND ON THE SOVIET REPLY OF MARCH 1, 1977 (REF B). SECONDLY, IT SHOULD PLACE ON THE RECORD WELL BEFORE THE AUTUMN CSCE MEETINGS OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN IMPLEMENTATION ON WHICH WE HAVE BEEN PRESSING THE SOVIETS DURING THE PERIOD SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE FINAL ACT. FINALLY, IT SHOULD PROVIDE A TIMELY REFUTATION IN THE CSCE CONTEXT OF RECENT SOVIET CHARGES REGARDING RADIO LIBERTY, ACTIVITIES OF U.S. JOURNALISTS, AND OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES.

2. AS WE HAVE SAID IN REF B, WE DO NOT HOLD MUCH HOPE THAT THE SOVIETS WILL RESPOND TO THIS APPROACH POSITIVELY BUT IT SHOULD KEEP THEM ON NOTICE THAT WE ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINUE PUSHING FOR FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION UP TO AND BEYOND THE BELGRADE MEETINGS IN
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THE FALL.

3. THUS FAR THE INITIATIVES IN THIS DIALOGUE HAVE BEEN OVERWHELMINGLY OURS, WHILE THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN REACTIVE AND DEFENSIVE. IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO MAINTAIN THIS SITUATION BY SUGGESTING NEW AVENUES OF IMPLEMENTATION WHERE PROGRESS IS UNSATISFACTORY.

SINCE OUR LAST DEMARCHE IN DECEMBER THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ITEMS WORTHY OF SPECIAL ATTENTION IN ANY NEW DEMARCHE. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE POSITIVE HAVE BEEN FEWER AND ARE RESTRICTED TO THE BASKET I CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES. AT OUR INITIATIVE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE NWC DELEGATION MADE ITS VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION AND THE CINCUSAREUR HAS INVITED HIS SOVIET COUNTERPART OFR AN OFFICIAL VISIT (SHOULD THE TIMING OF THE DEMARCHE BE AS WE SUGGEST IN PARA 5 BELOW THIS VISIT COULD BE IN PROGRESS OR OVER WHEN WE APPROACH THE SOVIETS). ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE, SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN BASKET II OR III ISSUES HAS BEEN SLIGHT AND BACKSLIDING BY THE SOVIETS IN SEVERAL AREAS HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE: E.G., VISA PROBLEMS FOR BUSINESSMEN; BLOCKING ACCESS BY SOVIET CITIZENS TO THE U.S. EMBASSY; DELAY IN RESPONDING TO OUR REQUEST FOR CONSULAR TALKS AND UNSATISFACTORY RESPONSE ON THE ISSUES; STEPPED UP ATTACKS ON RL/RFE AND VOA; EXPULSION OF A JOURNALIST (KRIMSKY) AND INTIMIDATION OF A SECOND (THTH); AND UNWARRANTED PRESS ATTACKS ON OTHER RESIDENT AMERICAN JOURNALISTS.

4. OUR DEMARCHE SHOULD STRESS THAT WE WISH TO CONTINUE THE BILATERAL DIALOGUE THROUGH THE SUMMER UP TO THE TIME OF THE AUTUMN SESSION WHEN THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ISSUES
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WILL BE DEALT WITH IN BELGRADE. IT SHOULD ALSO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE FINAL MONTHS BEFORE BELGRADE II WILL HAVE IN THE MINDS OF MOST AMERICANS AS THEY LOOK AT THE RECORD OF IMPLEMENTATION DURING THE REVIEW CONFERENCE. WE SHOULD ALSO STRIKE A BALANCE IN OUR TEXT WHICH WOULD CANDIDLY REFLECT OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION RECORD AS WE SEE IT AT THIS JUNCTURE BUT WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN NOW AND BELGRADE II WILL, OF COURSE, AFFECT OUR ULTIMATE ASSESSMEN. FINALLY, WE SHOULD STRESS THAT OUR ATTENTION TO THE WORK OF IMPLEMENTATION WILL NOT CEASE WITH THE SECOND BELGRADE MEETING BUT WILL CONTINUE INTO THE FUTURE AND THAT WE BELIEVE THE ATTENTION OF THE AMERICAN PRESS, CONGRESS AND PBULIC WILL ALSO CONTINUE WELL INTO THE FUTURE.

5. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUGGESTED TEXT FOR THE DEMARCHE TO BE MADE IN MOSCOW. OUR RECOMMENDATION IS THAT THE DEMARCHE BE MADE BY THE AMBASSADOR SOMETIME THIS SUMMER, POSSIBLY LATE JULY, THUS GIVING THE SOVIETS SUFFICIENT TIME TO RESPOND BEFORE THE AUTUMN MEETINGS AND LEAVING US AN OPTION FOR ONE FINAL APPROACH BEFORE

BELGRADE II. PRECISE TIMING AS WELL AS THE FINAL TEXT, OF
COURSE, WILL DEPEND ON DEVELOPMENTS AT BELGRADE I AND AFTER.
BEGIN TEXT:

A. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR PREVIOUS EXCHANGES ON CSCE
IMPLEMENTATION HAVE PROVED MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AS OUR
TWO COUNTRIES PROCEED WITH THE UNFINISHED WORK OF
FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI.
FOR THIS REASON WE WISH TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE IN
A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER AND WE HOPE THAT THE SOVIET
SIDE WILL RESPOND IN SAME SPIRIT BEFORE AND AFTER
THE AUTUMN MEETINGS IN BELGRADE.

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B. IN THIS REGARD WE WISH TO EMPHASIZE THE
IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE FINAL MONTHS BEFORE THE
CONVENING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE BELGRADE
MEETINGS ON CSCE. WE BELIEVE THAT EFFORTS TO IMPLE-
MENT THE FINAL ACT SHOULD BE CONTINUED AND EXPANDED
DURING THIS PERIOD SO AS TO UNDERLINE IN THE MOST
POSITIVE WAY THE COMMITMENT WHICH BOTH SIDES HAVE
TO THE COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT IN
ALL ITS ASPECTS. INCREASED IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH
CONCRETE STEPS WILL, WE BELIEVE, CREATE A MORE POSI-
TIVE SPIRIT FOR THE AUTUMN MEETINGS AND WILL CERTAINLY
HAVE A GREAT IMPACT ON THE AMERICAN PRESS, CONGRESS
AND PUBLIC AS THEY VIEW THE CSCE PROGRSS AT THE TIME
OF THE AUTUMN SESSION.

C. WE VIEW THE SIGNING OF THE HILSINKI FINAL ACT
AS A MOST IMPORTANT STEP IN THE PROCESS OF DETENTE IN
EUROPE AND BELIEVE ITS COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION WILL
CONTRIBUTE TO BETTERING THE RELATIONS AMONG ALL THE
PARTICIPATING STATES. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE FINAL

ACT CAN BE A POSITIVE ELEMENT IN SOVIET-AMERICAN
RELATIONS AND WE PLEDGE OURSELVES TO WORK TO ENSURE
THAT IT BECOMES SO. HOWEVER, ACTIVE EFFORTS BY
BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE NEEDED IF THE FINAL ACT IS
TO BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.
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D. AS WE POINTED OUT IN OUR PREVIOUS APPROACHES,
OUR COMMITMENT TO FULL IMPLEMENTATION WILL REMAIN A
PERMANENT FEATURE OF AMERICAN
POLICY. IN KEEPING WITH OUR NATIONAL TRADITIONS
THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND THE CONGRESS ATTACH PARTICULAR
IMPORTANCE TO PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THOSE SECTIONS
OF THE FINAL ACT WHICH APPLY TO HUMANITARIAN COOPERATION
AND COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION.
BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE UNITED STATES
PUBLIC OR THE GOVERNMENT HAS A RESTRICTED VIEW OF THE
IMPORTANCE OF ANY ASPECTS OF THE FINAL ACT.
E. REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONFIDENCE
BUILDING MEASURES, WE HAVE BEEN MILDLY PLEASED BY THE
OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION. WE ARE PARTICULARLY PLEASED
THAT BILATERALLY WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO AGREE TO THE
RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE OF DELEGATIONS FROM SENIOR MILITARY
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND OF LECTURERS FROM THESE
INSTITUTIONS, AND THAT FURTHER CONCRETE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE
IN PROMOTING VISITS BY MILITARY LEADERS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THESE ACTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE AND INCREASE.
F. WE, HOWEVER, ARE LESS THAN SATISFIED WITH SOME
OF THE RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES BY THE SOVIET UNION AND
CERTAIN WARSAW PACT MEMBERS THAT ARE APPARENTLY BEING
FOLLOWED WITH RESPECT TO INVITING OBSERVERS TO
MILITARY EXERCISES. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT IN COMING
MONTHS AND YEARS A GREATER NUMBER OF INVITATIONS TO
A BROADER SELECTION OF PARTICIPATING STATES WILL BE
FORTHCOMING FOR EXERCISES HELD BY THE SOVIET UNION
AND ITS ALLIES IN THE WARSAW PACT. WE ALSO HOPE THE
INVITATIONS PROFFERED BY OURSELVES AND OTHERS
WILL SOON BE ACCEPTED IN THE SAME POSITIVE SPIRIT IN
WHICH THEY ARE OFFERED. WE WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT THE
OPPORTUNITIES AFFORDED SUCH OBSERVERS FOR VIEWING
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THE EXERCISES WILL BE INCREASED SO THAT A MORE MEANINGFUL
UNDERSTANDING OF THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE
EXERCISES WILL BE POSSIBLE. WE
HOPE THAT DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE, WHICH IS BOUND TO

ARISE AT BELGRADE, WILL LEAD TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. WE NOTE THAT THE MOST RECENT INVITATION BY THE SOVIET UNION TO ONE OF ITS EXERCISES DID IN FACT EXPAND THE NUMBER AND RANGE OF PARTICIPATING STATES INVITED TO SEND OBSERVERS, AND WE HOPE THIS TREND WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE.

G. REGARDING COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, WE WOULD LIKE TO REEMPHASIZE, AS WE SAID IN OUR PREVIOUS APPROACH, THE NEED FOR MORE SOVIET ATTENTION TO THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH OUR BUSINESSMEN OPERATE IN THE SOVIET UNION. WITH RESPECT TO COMMERCIAL INFORMATION, IN OUR ESTIMATION, THE SITUATION AT PRESENT IS NOT AS GOOD AS IT HAS BEEN IN PAST YEARS. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE STATISTICAL YEARBOOK NARODNOE KHOZYAYSTVO WILL BE PUBLISHED IN ONLY 30,000 COPIES THIS YEAR WHICH IS THE SAME NUMBER AS LAST YEAR BUT 30 PERCENT BELOW THE NUMBER PUBLISHED IN 1975. IN ADDITION THE FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICAL YEARBOOK HAS APPEARED LATER THAN LAST YEAR. THIS CONSTITUTES A SERIOUS OBSTACLE TO THE FLOW OF INFORMATION REQUIRED TO TRANSACT BUSINESS IN THE USSR BECAUSE THIS LATTER YEARBOOK IS THE ONLY PUBLISHED COMPREHENSIVE STATISTICAL ANNUAL. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN TOLD BY SOVIET OFFICIALS THAT THE USSR DOES NOT PLAN TO PUBLISH A DETAILED BOOK ON THE CURRENT FIVE YEAR PLAN SUCH AS THE ONE THAT WAS PUBLISHED IN 1972. NOR, WE ARE TOLD, DOES GOSPLAN INTEND TO PUBLISH A COMPREHENSIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE 1977 ANNUAL PLAN. THAKEN TOGETHER WE CONSIDER THESE DEVELOPMENTS TO REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT DIMINUTION IN THE FLOW OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION AND AS SUCH A REDUCTION TO LEVELS BELOW WHAT WAS SUPPLIED PRIOR TO THE SIGNING

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OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT.

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H. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT SOVIET PRACTICES WITH RESPECT TO VISAS GRANTED TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN ARE NEEDLESSLY RESTRICTIVE. SOME EXIT/ENTRY VISAS OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED TO LIMIT THE DURATION OF THE EXIT PORTION OF THE VISA AND TO REQUIRE SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE DESTINATION IN EACH CASE. WE HAVE INQUIRED ABOUT THESE NEW RESTRICTIONS AND ARE STILL AWAITING A SOVIET REPLY. MEANWHILE, IN OUR MOST RECENT BILATERAL CONSULAR TALKS WE HAVE PROPOSED THE ISSUANCE OF MULTIPLE ENTRY/EXIT VISAS VALID FOR ONE YEAR FOR ALL ACCREDITED BUSINESSMEN OF ONE COUNTRY RESIDING PERMANENTLY IN THE OTHER COUNTRY. WE CONSIDER THIS PROPOSAL TO BE WITHIN THE SPIRIT AND LETTER OF THE FINAL ACT AND HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE HAS BEEN UNWILLING TO IMPLEMENT IT.

I. ON THE MATTER OF COOPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN AND OTHER FIELDS THERE ARE SEVERAL AREAS IN WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE PROGRESS MADE IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND THE CONVENING OF THE BELGRADE MEETINGS THIS AUTUMN. WE BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE FOR ADDITIONAL CONCRETE PROGRESS TO BE MADE.

(1) FAMILY REUNIFICATION: WE NOTE THAT, OF THE 124 FAMILIES AND 359 INDIVIDUALS ON THE DIVIDED FAMILIES LIST PRESENTED BY SECRETARY VANCE TO MINI-CONFIDENTIAL

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STER GROMYKO IN MARCH, A TOTAL OF 12 CASES (44) INDIVIDUALS) HAVE BEEN RESOLVED TO DATE. AMONG THE RESOLUTIONS WERE SOME CASES WHICH HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF REPEATED EMBASSY ANDUSG REPRESENTATIONS AND SOME WHICH INVOLVED HEALTH EMERGENCIES. WHILE WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT A NUMBER OF THESE CASES HAVE BEEN RESOLVED, WE BELIEVE THERE IS DEFINITELY ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE RESOLUTION RATE. IN PARTICULAR, WE BELIEVE THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO RESOLVE SOME CASES WHICH INVOLVE SIGNIFICANT HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS, SUCH AS THE CASES OF IRINA MCCLELLAN, JOHN JODWALKIS AND LORRAINE VAICEKAUSKENE, NICHOLAS ROSHKO, FELIX ARONOVICH, GALINA GOLTZMAN, AND JAN KARGOL.

RESOLUTION OF THESE AND THE OTHER CASES INCLUDED ON REP LIST 19 WOULD CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT.

(2) U.S.-USSR MARRIAGES: WE NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THAT EXIT-VISA WAITING PERIODS FOR SPOUSES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. THE EXCEPTION TO THIS GENERALLY FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT IS, OF COURSE, THE CASE OF IRINA MCCLELLAN WHO HAS ALREADY BEEN REFUSED AN EXIT VISA FOR MORE THAN 1,000 DAYS. WE FURTHER NOTE THAT NO REDUCTION HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY AMERICANS WHO ATTEMPT TO MARRY THEIR SOVIET FIANCEES. THEY ARE FORCED TO WAIT FOR EXTENDED PERIODS FOR MARRIAGE CEREMONIES TO BE PERFORMED AFTER ALL DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS ARE MET. IN A FEW PARTICULARLY TRAGIC CASES, U.S.-USSR BINATIONAL MARRIAGES HAVE BEEN BLOCKED BY REFUSAL OF SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO ISSUE THE AMERICAN FIANCEE AN ENTRY VISA. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE

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CSCE FINAL ACT IF THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES WOULD ISSUE ENTRY VISAS TO AMERICAN CITIZENS TIMOTHY LOOS, KELLY CHERRY, ARA SANENTZ, AND SHELIA CONLON SO THAT THEY MAY BE MARRIED.

(EL WE ALSO NOTE THAT THE DENIAL OF ACCESS TO THE U.S. EMBASSY FOR SOVIET CITIZENS HAS INCREASED IN THE PAST MONTHS AND WE CONSIDER SUCH ARBITRARY ACTIONS BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO BE CONTRARY TO THE FINAL ACT.

(4) IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL FOR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL REASONS WE WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE OUR PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE BILATERAL CONSULAR REVIEW TALKS WHICH WE BELIEVE WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT STEPS IN FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI ACCORDS. THESE WOULD INVOLVE IN ADDITION TO THE ISSUANCE OF MULTIPLE ENTRY/EXIT VISAS FOR BUSINESSMEN MENTIONED ABOVE, THE ISSUANCE OF EXIT VISAS VALID FOR THE LENGTH OF THEIR STAY TO ALL AMERICAN LONG-TERM SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGEES. (SOVIET LONG-TERM EXCHANGEES IN THE UNITED STATES ARE ALREADY PERMITTED TO DEPART WHENEVER THEY WISH WITHOUT AN EXIT VISA.) IN ADDITION, WE HAVE PROPOSED THE EXTENSION OF THE 3 TO 5 DAY RULE FOR ISSUING DIPLOMATIC VISAS TO THE SOVIET CONSULATE GENERAL IN SAN FRANCISCO AND TO OUR CONSULATE GENERAL IN LENINGRAD. WE HAVE ALSO PROPOSED THE EXPANSION OF THE NUMBER OF EXIT/ENTRY POINTS FOR OFFICIAL TRAVELLERS IN EACH COUNTRY TO 10 INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT 3. FINALLY, WE REAFFIRM OUR READINESS TO ABOLISH ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS, TRAVEL CONTROLS APPLIED TO SOVIET

OFFICIALS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AND IN THIS CONNECTION WE AGAIN CALL THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S ATTENTION TO THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON MAY 1, 1976 TO REOPEN AREAS IN THE UNITED STATES WHICH WERE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO TRAVEL BY SOVIET OFFICIALS FOLLOWING THE CLOSURE BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT IN 1974 OF CERTAIN BORDER AREAS IN THE USSR. THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO EQUIVALENT STEP TAKEN BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT.
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MENT WITH RESPECT TO CLOSED AREAS.

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J. IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION, WE NOT THE SOVIET STATEMENT OF CONCERN WITH RESPECT TO THE BROADCASTS BY THE AMERICAN RADIO STATIONS RADIO LIBERTY AND RADIO FREE EUROPE AND CERTAIN VOA BROADCASTS. IN OUR OPINION, THESE BROADCASTS ARE FULLY IN ACCORD WITH THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE FINAL ACT WHICH CALLS FOR THE FREER AND WIDER DISSEMINATION BY RADIO OF INFORMATION AMONG PARTICIPATING STATES. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HAVE ASKED FOR SPECIFIC EVIDENCE OF VIOLATIONS OF THE FINAL ACT BY ANY OF THESE RADIO TRANSMISSIONS BUT AS YET WE HAVE RECEIVED NO CONCRETE EXAMPLES. IF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS IT USEFUL, WE ARE FULLY PREPARED TO DISCUSS PARTICULAR

EXAMPLES OF WHAT IT CONSIDERS TO BE IMPROPER ACTIVITIES OF THESE STATIONS. WE CONTINUE TO OBJECT TO DELIBERATE INTERFERENCE WITH THE BROADCASTS OF THESE STATIONS AS BEING INCONSISTENT WITH THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE FINAL ACT AND INSIST THAT SUCH INTERFERENCE BE ELIMINATED.

K. REGARDING THE FACILITATION OF THE WORK CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS WHICH IS CALLED FOR IN THE FINAL ACT, WE HAVE PROPOSED AN EARLY MEETING BETWEEN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESS DIVISION TO DISCUSS THE
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STATUS AND THE POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPROVING WORKING CONDITIONS FOR AMERICAN JOURNALISTS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND SOVIET JOURNALISTS IN THE UNITED STATES. IN OUR OPINION SOVIET TREATMENT OF AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS IN THE SOVIET UNION HAS DETERIORATED IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS MAKING SUCH A MEETING ALL THE MORE NECESSARY. WE HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY CONCERNED BY THE EXPULSION OF ONE CORRESPONDENT (KRIMSKY), BY THE HARASSMENT OF OTHER CORRESPONDENTS THROUGH ATTACKS ON THEM IN THE SOVIET PRESS AND BY THE TOTALLY UNWARRANTED ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST THE ACCREDITED CORRESPONDENT OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, MR. ROBERT TOTH, DURING THE COURSE OF HIS NORMAL, PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AS A JOURNALIST. WE CONSIDER THAT THESE ACTIONS CONSTITUTE A PATTERN OF HARASSMENT AND INTERFERENCE WHICH IS A DEFINITE STEP BACKWARDS AND IS COMPLETELY CONTRARY TO THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE FINAL ACT.

). OUR REPEATED REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF AMERIKA OUTSIDE OF MOSCOW HAVE NOT PRODUCED ANY RESPONSES FROM THE SOVIET SIDE. WE ARE SPECIFICALLY INTERESTED IN THE TIMES AND LOCATIONS OF SALES OF AMERIKA AT KIOSKS IN LENINGRAD, KIEV AND OTHER LARGE CITIES IN THE SOVIET UNION. WE SUGGEST THAT DISCUSSIONS BE INITIATED BETWEEN APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS OUTSIDE EMBASSY PREMISES IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON. IN OUR OPINION SUCH AN AGREEMENT WOULD BE A MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 2 (A) (II) OF THE FINAL ACT ON IMPROVING THE CIRCULATION OF, ACCESS TO, AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AS WELL AS SECTIONS 3 (CULTURE) AND 4 (EDUCATION) CONCERNING ACCESS, EXCHANGE AND DISSEMINATION IN THESE AREAS.

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FINALLY ON THIS POINT, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE SOVIET RESPONSE TO OUR SUGGESTION THAT THERE BE LIVE TELEVISION BROADCASTS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SOVIET AND AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ON THE SUBJECT OF CSCE AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT. SUCH A DISCUSSION HAS TAKEN PLACE AND BEEN BROADCAST ON AMERICAN TELEVISION AND WE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN ARRANGING A SIMILAR PROGRAM IN THE SOVIET UNION.

.. IN CLOSING WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A GENERAL COMMENT REGARDING REPEATED SOVIET CHARGES THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN INTERFERING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES (THE SOVIET UNION IN PARTICULAR) AS A RESULT OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND COMMENTARIES ON THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS, IT IS OUR FIRM CONVICTION THAT THE STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CAN IN NO WAY BE CONSIDERED INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. NEITHER HAVE THE STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS BY RESPONSIBLE U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BEEN DIRECTED EXCLUSIVELY OR EVEN PRIMARILY AT THE SOVIET UNION, BUT RATHER HAVE BEEN DIRECTED AT THE SITUATIONS IN MANY NATIONS, OUR OWN INCLUDED. WE WISH TO RECALL THAT THE SIGNATORIES TO THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT UNDERTOOK A BROAD AND COMPREHENSIVE COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE VII TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AT HOME AND IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH EACH OTHER. IN VIEW OF THIS COMMITMENT BY THE UNITED STATES, SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER PARTICIPANT-STATES AND IN VIEW OF SIMILAR COMMITMENTS IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS SUCH AS THE UN CHARTER, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IS CLEARLY A LEGITIMATE SUBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL DISCOURSE, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.

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Message Attributes

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1913457
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION: DEMARCHE TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UR, US, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
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